

## CLAIMS

1. A vertebral fixing system adapted to be mounted on a vertebra of the spine to connect it to a rod (10), said vertebra having a posterior wall in the vicinity of which said rod extends and lateral walls from which project ribs and/or transverse processes, which vertebral fixing system is characterized in that it comprises:
- a connecting part (12) adapted to face said rib and/or said transverse process and to be connected to said rod (10);
  - an elongate flexible ligature (42) adapted to connect together said connecting part and at least one rib and/or one transverse process; and
  - adjustable locking means (36) fastened to said connecting part and adapted to fix simultaneously in position said connecting part relative to said rod and at least one portion of said ligature relative to said connecting part, so as to prevent relative displacement of said rod (10) and said vertebra in opposite directions.
2. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 1, characterized in that said connecting part (12) includes a passage (48) facing said rod and said ligature (42) passes through the adjustable locking means to reduce the section of said passage in order to press said ligature against said rod (10) and simultaneously to fix said connecting part and at least one portion of said ligature in position relative to said rod.
3. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that said ligature (42) has a first end (44) fastened to said connecting part (12) and a free second end (46) adapted to slide in said connecting part and to be formed into a loop, a portion of said ligature between said ends being adapted to be immobilized in translation relative to said connecting

part by said adjustable locking means, whereby the loop has a particular length.

4. A vertebral fixing system according to any one of  
5 claims 1 to 3, characterized in that said connecting part  
(12) comprises two longitudinal members (14, 20) whose  
first ends (16, 22) are connected together so that said  
members may pivot relative to each other and the middle  
10 parts of their two facing faces are adapted to bear on  
respective opposite sides of said rod (10), said  
adjustable locking means (36) being adapted to drive the  
second ends (18, 24) of said longitudinal members  
forcibly towards each other and to fix them in position  
relative to each other so that said two members form a  
15 clamp and grip said rod, whereby said connecting part can  
be fixed in position relative to said rod.

5. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 4,  
characterized in that said second ends (18, 24) of the  
20 two longitudinal members (14, 20) have, facing each  
other, a bore (34) in one and a thread (38) in the other,  
so that a screw (36) may be passed through said bore and  
screwed into said thread to form said adjustable locking  
means.

25 6. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 3 and  
either claim 4 or claim 5, characterized in that said  
first end (44) of said ligature is fastened to the pivot  
(32) of said longitudinal members (14, 20).

30 7. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 2 and any  
one of claims 4 to 6, characterized in that at least one  
of the middle parts of said two facing faces (50, 52) has  
a first portion (56) through which said passage passes  
35 and a second portion (58) adapted to bear against said  
rod.

8. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 7,  
characterized in that said passage (48) extends between  
two orifices (40, 54) in said connecting part (12) and  
opening to the outside of said part so that said ligature  
5 (42) is able to slide through said part.

9. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 8,  
characterized in that each of said middle parts of said  
two longitudinal members (14, 20) includes an orifice  
10 (40, 54).

10. A vertebral fixing system according to either claim 8  
or claim 9, characterized in that said passage (48) has a  
section that decreases from one orifice (44) to the other  
15 (50) so as to be able to exert a progressive pressure on  
said ligature portion (42) between said two orifices to  
press it against said rod (10).

11. A vertebral fixing system according to any one of  
20 claims 1 to 10, characterized in that said ligature  
consists of a strip of flexible material.